

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:MJPLATT

APPROVED BY ARA/CEN:LKILDAY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 027451

FOL RPT GUATEMALA 0717 ACTION SECSTATE INFO CINCSO 4 FEB.

QUOTE

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 0717

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SWEL, GT

SUBJ: GOG REQUEST FOR DISASTER RELIEF

1. SEPTEL REPORTS PRESIDENT LAUGERUD'S REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY DISASTER RELIEF FOR EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE. IT IS CLEAR DISASTER OF MAJOR PROPORTIONS HAS TAKEN PLACE ALTHOUGH WE CAN PLACE NO FIRM ESTIMATE YET ON DEATHS, INJURIES OR MATERIAL DAMAGES. RECOMMEND SPEEDIEST POSSIBLE FULFILLMENT OF PRESIDENT LAUGERUD'S REQUEST FOR ITEMS (A) THROUGH (C) BELOW:

A) FIELD HOSPITAL TO HANDLE ESTIMATED 3,000 INJURED B) 15 GENERATOR, LABORATORY INCLUDING ALL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT, OPERATING ROOM STERILIZER, WATER PUMP AND RESERVOIR WHICH WERE NOT PECLUDED IN THE 200 BED EMERGENCY HOSPITAL WHICH THE GOVERNMENT RECENTLY RECEIVED M IN THIS CONNECTION UNDERSTAND EXPERT HARRY UNCLASSIFIED

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KNUDSEN WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO COME DOWN TDY TO HELP

ASSEMBLE HOSPITAL. REQUEST HE COME AS SOON AT POSSIBLE.

C) SUPPLIES FOR FIRST AID STATIONS

D) ALTHOUGH GOG HAS NOT SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED IT, WOULD SEEM USEFUL TO HAVE DISASTER SURVEY TEAM COME FROM PANAMA TO GIVE PROFESSIONAL ESTIMATE OF ASSISTANCE NEEDED.

2. PRESIDENT HAS REPORTEDLY PUT DEFENSE MINISTER LUCAS IN CHARGE OF DISASTER RELIEF OPERATIONS. WE WILL ATTEMPT CONTACT LUCAS TO INFORM HIM THAT WE ARE REQUESTING ASSISTANCE DESCRIBED PARA ONE ABOVE PER PRESIDENT'S REQUEST.

3. SINCE DISASTER OF SUFFICIENT MAGNITUDE TO WARRANT USG ASSISTANCE AND PRESIDENT HAS REQUESTED SUCH ASSISTANCE, I HAVE DETERMINED TO EXERCIZE MY DISASTER RELIEF AUTHORITY TO OBLIGATE UP TO \$25,000 IN CASH, SUPPLIES OR SERVICES AS MAY BE DETERMINED TO BE NEEDED.

4. WE ESTIMATE THAT APPROXIMATELY 11 MILLION POUNDS PL 480 TITLE II COMMODITIES ARE IN GUATEMALA CITY AND REGIONAL CARE:CRS WAREHOUSES.
ANDREWS

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